



**Iowa Council for Early ACCESS  
Minutes  
March 16, 2007**

**Members Attending:**

Lana Michelson  
Barb Merrill  
Carolyn Nelson  
David Van Horn  
Angela Burke Boston  
Gina Greene  
Glenn Baughman  
Jan Mackey  
Jane Borst  
Andrew Hall  
Kelly Hancock  
Kyla Alba

Mary Stevens  
LaMark Combs  
Mary Nelson  
Maureen Schletzbaum

Shanell Wagner  
Scott Beall  
Troy McCarthy  
Mary Stevens  
Pablo Quintanilla  
Carrie Sodders

**Members Excused**

Royann Mraz  
Pam Noel  
Dan Ellsberry  
Michael Fay  
Jeff Lobas  
Pamela Parker  
Angela Burke Boston  
Mary Jane Brotherson  
Deb Sixta  
David Van Horn

**Staff Attending**

Julie Curry  
Kelly Schulte  
Jeannie Cox  
Barb Khal  
Lisa Sharp  
Dann Stevens  
LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl

**Handouts:**

Framework for Developing and Sustaining Part C Finance  
Legislature General Assembly  
Demographic Information Questions 1-3  
House File 503  
Iowa Resource Assessment

Framework for Early ACCESS Finance System  
Raw Data Handout  
Comparison of Iowa Child County  
Federal Update  
Proposed Appropriations for Early ACCESS  
House Clip Sheet  
TEACH Early Childhood Iowa

### **Call to Order**

Troy McCarthy called the meeting to order.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The January minutes were approved with corrections.

### **Guest Speaker:**

Carrie Fitzgerald shared information about the Family Opportunities Act. This is for families of children with special needs who receive Medicaid, but need more help because they do not qualify for any waivers. Carrie requested support from council Members.

### **Executive Committee Update** – Troy McCarthy, Julie Curry

Julie Curry shared a handout comparing the Education Appropriations Bill to the Health and Human Services Appropriations (SSB1205). The Education Bill is to provide funding for Child Health Specialty Clinics to serve infants and toddlers who are born prematurely, drug-exposed, or medically fragile. While the HHS Bill is to use funds to provide a match for the Infant and Toddler Medicaid Provider Package. Service providers would then be able to keep the entire reimbursement for the Early ACCESS early intervention services they provide.

### **Lead Agency Update – Lana Michelson**

Determinations data was shared with the council. Early ACCESS is doing well in most areas except with the following four indicators: 1) 45-day timeline indicator. There was no progress demonstrated from the 04-05 data to the 05-06 data; 2) Transition C to B; 3) Notification to all partners and 4) transition conference before the child's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

### **Framework for Early ACCESS Finance – Julie Curry and Dann Stevens:**

Phase IA –Question #4-Why do Children Exit from Early ACCESS?

Council members continued finance discussion from January meeting. They reviewed exit data that guided the discussion.

The council then broke into small work groups to discuss the Resource Matrix. Each group generated a list of resources/people who could continue work on finances.

### **Signatory Partner updates**

Child Health Specialty Clinics (Barb Khal)- Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Guide by Your Side and Mentor Program have nearly completed their interview process and so far seven guides and three family liaisons have been hired. Train the Trainers for Module 5- Service Coordination Training will take place in Early May.

Department of Public Health (Kelly Schulte)- Title V Service Coordination will roll out in May. There are 24 required service coordinators, however, there will be 50 service coordinators trained. On April 12 and April 18, training will be provided to service coordinators on the Development Assessment for Young Children (DAYC) evaluation tool. Jane Borst celebrated the success of the EHDI project.

Department of Human Services (Mary Nelson)-There is concern because such a small percentage of families referred to Early ACCESS from CAPTA (Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act) actually use Early ACCESS services. DHS would like to work with EA to identify what will work and what the barriers are for vulnerable and overwhelmed families to be a part of Early ACCESS. They would like to pilot something in a community so that Early ACCESS does not just become one more forced intervention.

### **Committee Reports -**

Parent – There will be a May 17 evening retreat for council family members. There will be planning time to discuss another Omaha Zoo trip.

By laws – no report

Nominating – no report

Membership – There are five spots to fill on the council this year. There is a need to recruit more people who live in the far north or far south of the state.

Public Policy – no report

Governor's Report – The committee met before today's meeting to review the draft report. Each member has agreed to draft a section of the report by the May meeting. The committee would like the report to be completed this summer in time for the next Legislative session. The committee would like to use statements from parents on the council.

### **Sharing**

Gina Greene reported that Tyler's DVD has now reached all 50 states in addition to several countries. Four thousand copies have been distributed.

Barb Merrill is housed in a different agency. She shared brochures. She also announced that there would be increases in childcare provider rates for families with low income.

LaMark Combs announced he has published and authored a book of poetry.

Julie Curry shared the Infant & Toddler Association's annual report. She also shared a document on Federal Alerts.

Carrie Soddors shared that Head Start will be reauthorized and that should be funding to Early Head Start for more slots. There will be a Federal Site Visit in April to review 1700 standards. If found out of compliance there is ninety days to fix the situation.

Carolyn Nelson announced that there would be a Title V Conference in the spring of 2008.

LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl thanked the council for comments on the State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report.

Lisa Sharp requested council Members to recruit families to attend this year's Parents as Presenters Workshop, Sept. 7-8. Parents as Presenters brochure/applications were passed out.

The next council meeting will be May 18, 2007, 10:00am to 3:00pm at Stoney Creek Inn, meeting in the John Deere room.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30pm.